Reduction in the price of PTA

659. CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK:
DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has recently reduced the prices of Pure Terathetic Acid;

(b) when was the custom duty reduced on paraxylene and PTA and what was the earlier and revised duty;

(c) whether it is a fact that the benefit of duty reduction has not been passed on to the consumer; and

(d) what steps have been taken to ensure that the benefit of price reduction of PTA is immediately passed on to the consumer by reducing the price of cloth ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY) : (a) There is no statutory price control over Pure Terathetic Acid (PTA). Government has, however, recently advised PTA manufacturer that they may sell PTA at the price not exceeding Rs. 24550/- per tonne.

(b) Earlier and current custom duty status on Paraxylene and PTA given below :

	Earlier	Revised from	Present
PX	90%	30-10-89	80%
PTA	140%	30-9-85	190%

(c) and (d) Intermediate such as PTA are not price controlled items. Import duty serves as important factor in arriving at landed cost of imported products. Appropriate landed cost serves to keep indigenous prices in check and acts as deterent to indiscriminate hikes.

Conference on Science, Technology and Patent Laws

660. SHRI RAM AWADESH SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Conference of Scientists on Science, Technology and Patent Laws was held at INSA, New Delhi on the 4th December, 1989; and

(b) if so, what were the main issues raised and whether any recommendations were made and if so, what are the details thereof and what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Working Group on Patent Laws held its Conference on 4th December, 1989 in which it was *inter-alia* resolved that the Indian Patents Act, 1970 in its scope and purpose continues to represent Indian interests and requires no amendments. There is no proposal before the Government to amend the Indian Patents Act, 1970.

Anpara Power Project

661. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA JAYAWANTRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are considering the taking over of the Anpara Power Project in Uttar Pradesh, presently being set up by Uttar Pradesh Government; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(b) what is Uttar Pradesh Government's stand on the issue ?